

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

#8/amend  
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Applicant: Gordon J. Smith

Examiner: Eileen P. Morgan

Serial No.: 09/886,566

Group Art Unit: 3723

Filed: June 21, 2001

Docket: ROC9-2000-0206USI (1210.103.101)

**Due Date: April 17, 2003**

Title: METHOD OF BURNISHING A BURNISHABLE REAR PAD SLIDER IN A DISK DRIVE

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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MAY 02 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir/Madam:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed January 17, 2003. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 15-20.

1. A method of burnishing a rear pad of a slider within a disk drive, the rear pad being formed of a burnishable material and maintaining an element for reading and/or writing, the disk drive further including a spindle motor rotatably driving a disk and an actuator assembly positioning the slider over a surface of the disk, the method comprising:

rotating the disk;

radially moving the slider relative to the disk surface in a reciprocal fashion, causing the

rear pad to rock; and

burnishing the rear pad via contact between the rear pad and the disk surface;

wherein the rear pad is burnished as the rear pad rocks, imparting a positive camber in the rear pad relative to the reading and/or writing element.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the rear pad defines a height, and further wherein burnishing the rear pad includes reducing the height.